

PROCESS FOR MANUFACTURING CONTINUOUS POLYESTER FILAMENT YARN

Inv. A1 inc1,

The invention pertains to a process for manufacturing polyester filament yarn for technical applications by spinning a polymer over 90% of the chains of which are composed of ethylene terephthalate units, with the spinning process having the following elements:

- extruding the polymer in the molten state through a spinneret plate,
- passing the thus formed filaments through a heated zone and a cooling zone in that order,
- fixing the filament speed,
- drawing the filaments to a length of 1,5 to 3,5 times their original length, and
- winding the resulting filament yarn,

with all elements being covered in a single process pass.

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Such a process is well-known. For instance, European patent application EP 80 906 describes a process for the production of polyester filament yarn for technical applications by melt-spinning a polyester-containing polymer in which all process elements are covered in a single process pass. Such a process is also known as a one-step process. It is indicated in this publication that in such a process it is preferred to select a winding speed of less than 5500 m/min, since higher winding speeds will give rise to filamentation and difficulty in operation.

However, an increase in the winding speed is desired. When manufacturing polyester filament yarn for technical applications on an industrial scale, it is advantageous to produce the largest possible quantity of yarn per unit of time on an appropriate apparatus. One of the ways of increasing the quantity of yarn produced per unit of time lies in a higher winding speed.

~~Sub C3~~ US patent specification No. 4,491,657 also discloses the process mentioned in the opening paragraph. This patent specification states that the winding speed of the yarn in such a one-step process is not less than 6,5 km/min. However, there are no examples in this patent specification of polyester filament yarns for technical applications made by such a one-step process at such a winding speed, nor is there any teaching on how to solve the problems which were found to occur when making polyester filament yarns for technical applications at such winding speeds.

Patent application WO 90/00638 indicates that in a one-step spinning process an increase in the spinning speed goes hand in hand with increased crystallinity of the as yet undrawn filaments. Yarn wound at a speed of about 4800 m/min can be obtained from undrawn filaments having a crystallinity in the range of 13 to 18%.

~~enSC4~~ The invention pertains to a process which makes it possible to manufacture polyester filament yarn for technical applications at high winding speeds without the aforementioned problems occurring. The term winding speed in this context is defined as the peripheral velocity of the package being wound.

~~enSC5~~ The invention consists in that when manufacturing polyester filament yarn for technical applications in the manner described in the opening paragraph,

- the filaments prior to being drawn have a crystallinity smaller than 16% and
- the winding speed of the yarn is larger than 6000 m/min.

Surprisingly, it has proved possible to make polyester yarn for technical applications using a higher winding speed than the one commonly used so far when manufacturing such a yarn. The process conditions selected should be such that at a yarn winding speed above 6000 m/min, the crystallinity of the undrawn filaments is smaller than 16%.

It was found that if at such winding speeds the undrawn filaments have a crystallinity in excess of 16%, the result will be an unstable spinning process with a great deal of filamentation in the drawn yarn or a process which does not result in a yarn with advantageous use properties.

The crystallinity of the undrawn filaments can, e.g., be affected by:
5 the polymer viscosity, the spinning temperature, the length of the heated zone, the temperature in the heated zone, the degree of cooling in the cooling zone, and the mass per unit length (linear density) of the filaments.

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10 It is preferred, when making polyester filament yarn for technical applications according to the invention, to employ polyester polymer at least 90% of the polymer chains of which are composed of ethylene terephthalate units and which has a relative viscosity (η_{rel}) of 2,04 to 2,60, preferably of 2,04 to 2,42, more in particular of 2,15 to 15 2,35. All other process conditions remaining unchanged, a lower relative viscosity of the polymer will generally lead to a lower crystallinity of the undrawn filaments.

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20 It is preferred, when making polyester filament yarn with advantageous use properties according to the invention, to employ polyester polymer with a DEG (diethylene glycol) content of less than 2,5 wt.%, especially of less than 1 wt.%, more particularly of less than 0,8 wt.%. This can be achieved, e.g., by using dimethyl terephthalate as one of the constituents in the polymerisation reaction. All other process conditions remaining unchanged, a reduction of the DEG content 25 in the polymer will generally lead to an increase in the crystallinity of the undrawn filaments.

Further, the polymerisation reaction is preferably carried out such that the polymer obtained will have a low carboxyl end groups content. In the polymer to be spun this content preferably is less than 15, more particularly less than 10, milli-equivalents/kg. Such can be achieved, e.g., by performing the polymerisation reaction under mild conditions.

For the stability of the spinning process it is preferred that the

polymer contain as few impurities, such as dust and other minute particles, as possible. Alternatively, adjuvants such as titanium dioxide may be added to the polymer to improve the spinning behaviour. Furthermore, it is preferred for the polymer to be as completely anhydrous as possible. The polymer preferably contains less than 40 ppm, more particularly less than 20 ppm, of water.

5 The polymer is fed to a spinneret plate in the molten state, e.g., by means of an extruder. To this end small pieces of polymer (so-called polymer chips) can be charged to an extruder, the temperature in the extruder causing the chips to melt. The extruder feeds a spinning pump, which conveys the most constant polymer stream possible to a spinneret plate. The spinneret plate is heated to a temperature in the range of T_m to $T_m+100^\circ\text{C}$, with T_m representing the melting temperature of the polymer, preferably to a temperature in the range of $T_m+20^\circ\text{C}$ to $T_m+70^\circ\text{C}$. All other process conditions remaining unchanged, an increase in the spinning temperature will generally lead to a reduction of the crystallinity of the undrawn filaments.

10 Preferably, a single spinneret plate is employed to spin the total number of filaments of one bundle. The spinneret plate preferably has 20 100 to 1000 spinning orifices, more particularly 200 to 400 spinning orifices. All other process conditions (such as the total polymer throughput through all the spinning orifices) remaining unchanged, reducing the number of spinning orifices will generally lead to a reduction of the crystallinity of the undrawn filaments.

25 If so desired, additional members can be placed between the extruder, the spinning pump, and the spinneret plate, such as filters to clear the polymer stream of minute particles, static or dynamic mixers to homogenise the polymer stream, or heat exchangers to adjust the temperature of the polymer stream.

30 *5wba C7* To minimise the differences among the filaments in the bundle as much as possible, it is preferred that the spinning orifices be distributed over the spinneret plate in a regular pattern. The capillary inlet

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opening may be variously shaped, e.g., conically, like a trumpet, or in some other shape known to the skilled person, to facilitate the polymer inflow. The capillary outlet opening preferably is cylindrical, the length/diameter ratio (L/D ratio) being 0,5 to 5, more particularly 1 to 3. Alternatively, the capillary's shape may be such as will exert a positive, constant elongation of flow on the polymer stream.

5 The throughput per spinning orifice is dependent on the desired filament count of the drawn filaments and the spinning rate.

As is customary in melt-spinning processes, the arrangement of the spinneret plate is such that the capillaries are as parallel with the filament discharge direction as possible. To ensure that the possible differences in temperature in the spinneret plate are kept as low as possible during the spinning process, the spinneret plate can be heated from the bottom, e.g., by infrared heaters. Examples of such thermal radiators are provided in Netherlands patent applications NL 7001370 and NL 7001573.

Immediately beneath the spinneret plate is a heated zone, where such a temperature is set as can lead to plastic deformation of the newly formed filaments. The heated zone may take the form of a heated tube of sufficiently large dimensions to ensure unimpeded passage of all the filaments. The selected cross-section of the heated tube may be the same as, e.g., the cross-section of the spinneret plate. It is preferred to heat this tube in such a way as to give the most homogeneous temperature possible crosswise in the tube, while in the tube's longitudinal direction the temperature is as homogeneous as possible or else subject to gradual change. The temperature in the heated tube on the side abutting against the spinneret plate is in the range of T_m to $T_m+150^\circ\text{C}$, preferably in the range of $T_m+30^\circ\text{C}$ to $T_m+100^\circ\text{C}$. If the temperature is subject to gradual change in the tube's longitudinal direction, it is generally highest on the side of the tube abutting against the spinneret plate (the top). In that case the temperature at the bottom of the tube is preferably in the range of $T_m-100^\circ\text{C}$ to T_m . Alternatively, the temperature at the top of the

tube may be lower than the temperature at the bottom. The desired temperature in this zone can be reached not only by heating the tube but also by blowing in a heated gas, e.g., heated nitrogen or air. All other process conditions remaining unchanged, increasing the temperature in the heated zone will generally result in a reduction of the crystallinity of the undrawn filaments.

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The length of the heated zone ranges from 0,05 to 1,00 m, more particularly from 0,15 to 0,50 m. All other process conditions remaining unchanged, extending the heated zone will generally result in a reduction of the crystallinity of the undrawn filaments.

10 Subsequent to the heated zone there is a cooling zone. In this zone the temperature of the filaments is lowered to below the glass transition temperature T_g . Cooling can be carried out in various ways known to the skilled person. For instance, the filaments can be passed through a layer of gas of sufficiently low temperature, or a gas of sufficiently low temperature can be blown in the direction of the filaments. It is preferred in this case to cool the filaments as evenly as possible, preferably with care being taken to ensure minimal differences among the filaments in the bundle. Such can be achieved, e.g., by blowing air at the filament bundle from all sides. A highly suitable embodiment of the invention consists in passing the filament bundle through a tube which has a sufficiently large cross-section for the unimpeded passage of all filaments and a perforated or porous wall, e.g., a tube of sintered metal or wire mesh. A gas of sufficiently high temperature can be sucked into the tube from the outside by the filament bundle's speed, a process known as "self-suction." It is preferred, however, to blow a gas of sufficiently high temperature, e.g., air, through the tube at the filament bundle, preferably with special attention being given to homogeneous blowing at the yarn from all sides. The gas preferably has a temperature in the range of 10° to 100°C, more particularly in the range of 20° to 60°C. The quantity of gas introduced is dependent on the spinning speed and is preferably in the range of 50 to 500 Nm³/hour. The air velocity in the cooling zone preferably is in the range of 5 to 100 cm/s, more particularly in the range of 10 to 45

cm/s. The air velocity is measured on the inside of the tube, along its wall in a direction perpendicular to the direction of running of the yarn.

To further improve the running behaviour of the filament bundle there may be a small opening between the heated zone and the cooling zone, to allow air to be released from the top of the cooling zone.

In a highly suitable embodiment of the process according to the invention the flow resistance to gas of the wall of the perforated tube in the cooling zone is not constant over the entire length of the tube, e.g., the flow resistance of the tube wall is lower at the top of the tube than at its bottom, or the flow resistance in the middle of the tube differs from that at its top or bottom.

All other process conditions remaining unchanged, increasing the air velocity in the cooling zone will generally result in an increase in the crystallinity of the undrawn filaments.

When the filament bundle leaves the cooling zone, the bundle's temperature should be low enough for it to be passed over or along rotating or static guiding elements without the filaments or the bundle being permanently deformed. To facilitate further processing of the filament bundle, the filaments can be finished beyond the cooling zone. This finish can serve, e.g., to facilitate the drawing of the filaments or to reduce their static load. The finish can be applied with various finish applicators, such as a kiss roll or a finish wheel.

After the filament bundle has left the cooling zone and, if so desired, a finish has been applied to the filaments, the speed of the bundle (the spinning speed) is fixed, e.g., by passing the bundle several times across one or more godets (the first pair of godets). If the yarn is passed across several godets, the speed of the godets preferably is such that there is no drawing between the godets. The godets can be heated if so desired. The spinning speed preferably is higher than 2500 m/min, especially higher than 3500 m/min, more particularly higher than 4000 m/min.

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To measure the crystallinity of the undrawn filaments, the yarn has to be wound after the speed of the bundle has been fixed. The crystallinity of the undrawn filaments (the so-called as-spun product) can be determined as indicated in this description. As was stated earlier, the crystallinity of the spun product is smaller than 16%. It was found that if the crystallinity of the undrawn filaments is 5 to 14%, preferably 7,5 to 12%, a yarn can be obtained according to the process of the invention which after it has been made into a cord and the cord subjected to the conventional treatments known to the skilled person to make it suitable for use in rubber articles subjected to dynamic load, e.g., pneumatic tyres for cars, will possess a unique combination of properties, such as dimensional stability, breaking toughness, and strength.

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Also other properties of the as-spun product, such as the birefringence (Δn_s), can be measured. As-spun product obtained in the aforesaid manner preferably has a birefringence in the range of 0,030 to 0,120, more particularly in the range of 0,040 to 0,080.

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In the process according to the invention for manufacturing polyester filament yarn for technical applications the as-spun product is not wound, but drawn immediately after the spinning speed has been fixed. The bundle is guided from the first pair of godets to a next godet or several godets, the so-called second pair of godets. The speed of the second pair of godets is set such that between the first and the second pair of godets the bundle is drawn 1,3 to 3,5 times, preferably between 1,5 and 2,5 times. To facilitate the drawing of the bundle, the bundle may be fixed between the first and the second pair of godets, e.g., with the aid of a drawing point localiser. The drawing point localiser used may be a blower or a cyclone.

It was found that if the yarn is drawn in one step, it is advantageous to draw the bundle under such conditions that the temperature of the first pair of godets is below T_g+60 . Drawing the bundle in this way is preferably performed with the temperature of the first pair of godets selected in the range of 50° to 90°C.

The temperature of the second pair of godets is dependent on the further processing steps for the thus obtained bundle.

If the bundle is passed from the second pair of godets to a next godet or several godets, the so-called third pair of godets, without being drawn between the second and the third pair of godets but rather, say, relaxed, the temperature of the second pair of godets preferably is selected in the range of 200° to 250°C, more particularly in the range of 235° to 245°C. In that case the speed selected for the third pair of godets preferably is 0,1 to 10% lower than the speed of the second pair of godets. The temperature of the third pair of godets preferably is selected in the range of 140° to 200°C.

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If the bundle is drawn between the second and the third pair of godets, the temperature of the second pair of godets preferably is selected in the range of 50° to 240°C. The speed of the third pair of godets preferably is 1 to 100% higher than the speed of the second pair of godets. The third pair of godets preferably has a temperature in the range of 200° to 250°C, more particularly in the range of 235° to 245°C. From the third pair of godets the bundle may be passed to a next godet or several godets, the so-called fourth pair of godets. The speed of the fourth pair of godets preferably is 0,1 to 10% lower than the speed of the third pair of godets. The temperature of the fourth pair of godets preferably is selected in the range of 140° to 200°C.

After the bundle has been drawn and, optionally, relaxed and polyester filament yarn has been formed, the thus obtained yarn can be wound. The winding speed of the yarn is dependent on the spinning speed and the overall degree of drawing of the bundle and is larger than 6000 m/min, more particularly in the range of from 6500 to 8000 m/min. The apparatus used for winding the yarn should be such as will enable even winding of the yarn on a tube at the winding speed, forming an evenly made package, and should make a good transfer tail.

The invention also pertains to a polyester filament yarn and to a cord obtained by using such polyester filament yarn.

Polyester filament yarn obtained by the process according to the invention is highly suited to be used as yarn for technical applications, e.g., as reinforcing material in hose, rubber articles capable of sustaining mechanical load, such as V-belts, conveyor belts, and pneumatic tyres, more particularly pneumatic tyres for cars, or in tarpaulins. It possesses the following combination of advantageous use properties:

- 5 yarn strength \geq 650 mN/tex,
- elongation at break $>$ 10%, and
- breaking toughness $>$ 40 J/g.

The yarn's particularly favourable properties can be shown in treated cords made from these yarns. These cords possess the following unique combination of properties:

- 10 breaking tenacity (BT) \geq 570 mN/tex,
- dimensional stability (DSF) $>$ 110, and
- quality factor (Qf) $>$ 50.

The cords preferably have a quality factor above 100, especially above 125, more particularly above 150.

The dimensional stability is calculated from the shrinkage (HAS) as per the following equation:

$$\text{dimensional stability (DSF)} = 185/\text{HAS}.$$

The quality factor Qf is a measure of the unique combination of these cords' breaking tenacity (BT), dimensional stability (DSF), and breaking toughness (BTo).

The quality factor Qf is calculated as per the following equation:

$$Qf = (BT-570) + (DSF-110) + 8x(BTo-55).$$

To test this unique combination of properties, the yarn is twisted, corded, and dipped using a procedure which is highly suitable for comparative purposes and, moreover, fits in well with the treatments such a yarn would be subjected to if it were used as reinforcing material in rubber articles.

This procedure is carried out as follows:

- On a Lezzeni twister a yarn with a linear density of about 1100 dtex is processed into a 1100dtex x Z335 x 3 S335 greige cord construction.

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Next, there is applied to the resulting greige cord a water-dispersed blocked isocyanate, e.g., a dispersion of 5,5 wt.% of blocked diisocyanate, such as caprolactam blocked methylene diphenyl isocyanate, in an aqueous solution of an epoxide, e.g., an aliphatic epoxide. After this the cord is dried for 120 seconds in a hot-air oven at a temperature of 150°C and under a load of 20 mN/tex.

- 5 - The first drying step is followed straightaway by a hot drawing step. This hot drawing step is carried out in a hot-air oven also, for 45 seconds, at a temperature of 240°C, and under a load of 70 mN/tex.
- 10 - After the hot drawing step the cord is passed through a second dipping bath filled with a dispersion of 20 wt.% of resorcinol formaldehyde latex in water, after which it is dried in a hot-air oven for 120 seconds at a temperature of 220°C.
- 15 - During this last drying treatment of the yarn the load selected should be such as will give the formed cord a TASE 5% = 185 mN/tex. In actual practice, this load was found to be in the range of 5 to 20 mN/tex.

The above three greige cord treatment steps can be carried out, e.g., in a single-cord Litzer Computreater dipping unit.
 The properties of cords obtained in this manner can also be attained by interpolation of the respective cord properties with a slightly (maximally 10%) higher and lower TASE 5% value for comparison with each other. Thus, by linear interpolation to TASE 5% = 185 mN/tex, values can be obtained for the breaking tenacity, elongation at break, linear density, shrinkage, and breaking toughness.

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Measuring methods

The birefringence of the spun product, Δn_5 , can be measured with a Jenapol U polarisation microscope on ten different filaments cut on the bias, in accordance with De Séarmont's method. This method is described, int. al., by J. Feierabend in Melliand Textilberichte 2/1976, 138 - 144.

The immersion liquid used may be dibutyl phthalate. Monochromatic

light can be produced with a halogen lamp and a dispersion filter (wavelength 558.5 nm). The average birefringence of ten filaments constitutes the birefringence of a sample.

The crystallinity of the as-spun product, V_{CS} , can be calculated from the density of the as-spun product. The density of the as-spun product, ρ_s , can be determined as follows:

Three pieces of as-spun product are knotted and cut on either side of the knot, giving a sample length of 0.5 to 1 cm. The samples are washed in petroleum ether to remove the finish if any, and then introduced into a Davenport column containing a mixture of n-heptane and tetrachloromethane of a temperature of 23°C, which column has a virtually linear density gradient with a range of 80 kg/m³ over a difference in height of at least 60 cm. Gauge balls of a known density have been distributed evenly over this range. The position of the gauge balls and the samples is read six hours after the samples have been introduced into the column. By fitting the position of the gauge balls to a polynomial of the third degree, the density gradient is determined with each measurement. Using the fitted density gradient, the density of the samples can be determined from the position of the samples in the column. The average density of three samples constitutes the density of the as-spun product.

V_{CS} can be determined with the aid of the following formula:

$$V_{CS} = (\rho_s - \rho_a) / (\rho_c - \rho_a)$$
 where ρ_a is the density of amorphous polyester (1335 kg/m³) and ρ_c is the density of crystalline polyester (1529 kg/m³).

In accordance with ASTM D2256 the mechanical properties of the yarn, such as breaking tenacity (in mN/tex), elongation at break (in %), and breaking toughness (in J/g), can be determined with an Instron dynamometer, the length between grips being 50 cm. To prevent inter-thread slippage at the clamps, the use of curved clamps is preferred in this measurement. The linear density of the yarn is preferably determined by weighing.

The cord properties are measured after at least 16 hours of conditioning in a standard atmosphere in accordance with ISO 139.

The breaking tenacity (BT in mN/tex), breaking toughness (BTo in J/g), and TASE 5% (in mN/tex) of the cord can be determined in accordance with ASTM D885M-85 ("Tire codes, tire cord fabrics, and industrial filament yarns made from man-made organic base fibers"), with TASE 5% being calculated from the FASE 5 value as per the following formula:

5 $TASE\ 5\% = (FASE\ 5(N)/titer\ (dtex)) \times 10^4,$

with the linear density also being determined in accordance with ASTM D885M-85 and corrected for dip pick up (DPU) besides. The dip pick up can be determined as specified by BISFA (Internationally agreed methods for testing polyester filament yarns, 1983 edition).

10 The shrinkage (HAS in %) of the cord can be determined in accordance with ASTM D4974-89 (Thermal shrinkage of yarn and cord using the testrite thermal shrinkage oven).

15 The relative viscosity of the polymer can be determined by measuring the flow time of a solution of 1 g of polymer in 125 g of a mixture of 2,4,6-trichlorophenol and phenol (TCF/F, 7:10 (m/m)) at 25°C in an Ubbelohde (DIN 51562) viscometer, type II (capillary I.D. 1,13 mm). The solution can be prepared by dissolving the sample in TCF/F for 15 minutes at 135°C.

20 The flow time of the solvent is measured under the same conditions. Next, the relative viscosity in TCF/F is calculated as the ratio between the recorded flow times.

25 The DEG content of the polymer can be determined in accordance with the method described by R. van Wijk and D. Vink in ACS. Org. Coat. Plast. Chem. 32 (1972), 178-183.

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30 The carboxyl end groups content can be determined by dissolving about 0,8 g of polymer sample in 50 ml of o-cresol at 125° ± 2°C for 15 ± 2 minutes. After being cooled to room temperature, the solution is diluted with 30 ml of chloroform. After the addition of 0,3 ml of indicator solution (1 g of bromocresol green in 250 ml ethanol, diluted with chloroform to 1:1) the solution is titrated (monotone)

~~Sub C17~~ with an ethanolic potassium hydroxide solution (0,03 mole/l) at a wavelength of 620 nm (in transmission). The equivalence point corresponds to the point of inflection of the obtained titration curve. A blank determination is carried out in the same manner.

~~Sub C18~~ ⁵ ₁₀ ₁₅ ₂₀ ₂₅ ₃₀ ₃₅ ₄₀ ₄₅ ₅₀ ₅₅ ₆₀ ₆₅ ₇₀ ₇₅ ₈₀ ₈₅ ₉₀ ₉₅ ₁₀₀ ₁₀₅ ₁₁₀ ₁₁₅ ₁₂₀ ₁₂₅ ₁₃₀ ₁₃₅ ₁₄₀ ₁₄₅ ₁₅₀ ₁₅₅ ₁₆₀ ₁₆₅ ₁₇₀ ₁₇₅ ₁₈₀ ₁₈₅ ₁₉₀ ₁₉₅ ₂₀₀ ₂₀₅ ₂₁₀ ₂₁₅ ₂₂₀ ₂₂₅ ₂₃₀ ₂₃₅ ₂₄₀ ₂₄₅ ₂₅₀ ₂₅₅ ₂₆₀ ₂₆₅ ₂₇₀ ₂₇₅ ₂₈₀ ₂₈₅ ₂₉₀ ₂₉₅ ₃₀₀ ₃₀₅ ₃₁₀ ₃₁₅ ₃₂₀ ₃₂₅ ₃₃₀ ₃₃₅ ₃₄₀ ₃₄₅ ₃₅₀ ₃₅₅ ₃₆₀ ₃₆₅ ₃₇₀ ₃₇₅ ₃₈₀ ₃₈₅ ₃₉₀ ₃₉₅ ₄₀₀ ₄₀₅ ₄₁₀ ₄₁₅ ₄₂₀ ₄₂₅ ₄₃₀ ₄₃₅ ₄₄₀ ₄₄₅ ₄₅₀ ₄₅₅ ₄₆₀ ₄₆₅ ₄₇₀ ₄₇₅ ₄₈₀ ₄₈₅ ₄₉₀ ₄₉₅ ₅₀₀ ₅₀₅ ₅₁₀ ₅₁₅ ₅₂₀ ₅₂₅ ₅₃₀ ₅₃₅ ₅₄₀ ₅₄₅ ₅₅₀ ₅₅₅ ₅₆₀ ₅₆₅ ₅₇₀ ₅₇₅ ₅₈₀ ₅₈₅ ₅₉₀ ₅₉₅ ₆₀₀ ₆₀₅ ₆₁₀ ₆₁₅ ₆₂₀ ₆₂₅ ₆₃₀ ₆₃₅ ₆₄₀ ₆₄₅ ₆₅₀ ₆₅₅ ₆₆₀ ₆₆₅ ₆₇₀ ₆₇₅ ₆₈₀ ₆₈₅ ₆₉₀ ₆₉₅ ₇₀₀ ₇₀₅ ₇₁₀ ₇₁₅ ₇₂₀ ₇₂₅ ₇₃₀ ₇₃₅ ₇₄₀ ₇₄₅ ₇₅₀ ₇₅₅ ₇₆₀ ₇₆₅ ₇₇₀ ₇₇₅ ₇₈₀ ₇₈₅ ₇₉₀ ₇₉₅ ₈₀₀ ₈₀₅ ₈₁₀ ₈₁₅ ₈₂₀ ₈₂₅ ₈₃₀ ₈₃₅ ₈₄₀ ₈₄₅ ₈₅₀ ₈₅₅ ₈₆₀ ₈₆₅ ₈₇₀ ₈₇₅ ₈₈₀ ₈₈₅ ₈₉₀ ₈₉₅ ₉₀₀ ₉₀₅ ₉₁₀ ₉₁₅ ₉₂₀ ₉₂₅ ₉₃₀ ₉₃₅ ₉₄₀ ₉₄₅ ₉₅₀ ₉₅₅ ₉₆₀ ₉₆₅ ₉₇₀ ₉₇₅ ₉₈₀ ₉₈₅ ₉₉₀ ₉₉₅ ₁₀₀₀ ₁₀₀₅ ₁₀₁₀ ₁₀₁₅ ₁₀₂₀ ₁₀₂₅ ₁₀₃₀ ₁₀₃₅ ₁₀₄₀ ₁₀₄₅ ₁₀₅₀ ₁₀₅₅ ₁₀₆₀ ₁₀₆₅ ₁₀₇₀ ₁₀₇₅ ₁₀₈₀ ₁₀₈₅ ₁₀₉₀ ₁₀₉₅ ₁₁₀₀ ₁₁₀₅ ₁₁₁₀ ₁₁₁₅ ₁₁₂₀ ₁₁₂₅ ₁₁₃₀ ₁₁₃₅ ₁₁₄₀ ₁₁₄₅ ₁₁₅₀ ₁₁₅₅ ₁₁₆₀ ₁₁₆₅ ₁₁₇₀ ₁₁₇₅ ₁₁₈₀ ₁₁₈₅ ₁₁₉₀ ₁₁₉₅ ₁₂₀₀ ₁₂₀₅ ₁₂₁₀ ₁₂₁₅ ₁₂₂₀ ₁₂₂₅ ₁₂₃₀ ₁₂₃₅ ₁₂₄₀ ₁₂₄₅ ₁₂₅₀ ₁₂₅₅ ₁₂₆₀ ₁₂₆₅ ₁₂₇₀ ₁₂₇₅ ₁₂₈₀ ₁₂₈₅ ₁₂₉₀ ₁₂₉₅ ₁₃₀₀ ₁₃₀₅ ₁₃₁₀ ₁₃₁₅ ₁₃₂₀ ₁₃₂₅ ₁₃₃₀ ₁₃₃₅ ₁₃₄₀ ₁₃₄₅ ₁₃₅₀ ₁₃₅₅ ₁₃₆₀ ₁₃₆₅ ₁₃₇₀ ₁₃₇₅ ₁₃₈₀ ₁₃₈₅ ₁₃₉₀ ₁₃₉₅ ₁₄₀₀ ₁₄₀₅ ₁₄₁₀ ₁₄₁₅ ₁₄₂₀ ₁₄₂₅ ₁₄₃₀ ₁₄₃₅ ₁₄₄₀ ₁₄₄₅ ₁₄₅₀ ₁₄₅₅ ₁₄₆₀ ₁₄₆₅ ₁₄₇₀ ₁₄₇₅ ₁₄₈₀ ₁₄₈₅ ₁₄₉₀ ₁₄₉₅ ₁₅₀₀ ₁₅₀₅ ₁₅₁₀ ₁₅₁₅ ₁₅₂₀ ₁₅₂₅ ₁₅₃₀ ₁₅₃₅ ₁₅₄₀ ₁₅₄₅ ₁₅₅₀ ₁₅₅₅ ₁₅₆₀ ₁₅₆₅ ₁₅₇₀ ₁₅₇₅ ₁₅₈₀ ₁₅₈₅ ₁₅₉₀ ₁₅₉₅ ₁₆₀₀ ₁₆₀₅ ₁₆₁₀ ₁₆₁₅ ₁₆₂₀ ₁₆₂₅ ₁₆₃₀ ₁₆₃₅ ₁₆₄₀ ₁₆₄₅ ₁₆₅₀ ₁₆₅₅ ₁₆₆₀ ₁₆₆₅ ₁₆₇₀ ₁₆₇₅ ₁₆₈₀ ₁₆₈₅ ₁₆₉₀ ₁₆₉₅ ₁₇₀₀ ₁₇₀₅ ₁₇₁₀ ₁₇₁₅ ₁₇₂₀ ₁₇₂₅ ₁₇₃₀ ₁₇₃₅ ₁₇₄₀ ₁₇₄₅ ₁₇₅₀ ₁₇₅₅ ₁₇₆₀ ₁₇₆₅ ₁₇₇₀ ₁₇₇₅ ₁₇₈₀ ₁₇₈₅ ₁₇₉₀ ₁₇₉₅ ₁₈₀₀ ₁₈₀₅ ₁₈₁₀ ₁₈₁₅ ₁₈₂₀ ₁₈₂₅ ₁₈₃₀ ₁₈₃₅ ₁₈₄₀ ₁₈₄₅ ₁₈₅₀ ₁₈₅₅ ₁₈₆₀ ₁₈₆₅ ₁₈₇₀ ₁₈₇₅ ₁₈₈₀ ₁₈₈₅ ₁₈₉₀ ₁₈₉₅ ₁₉₀₀ ₁₉₀₅ ₁₉₁₀ ₁₉₁₅ ₁₉₂₀ ₁₉₂₅ ₁₉₃₀ ₁₉₃₅ ₁₉₄₀ ₁₉₄₅ ₁₉₅₀ ₁₉₅₅ ₁₉₆₀ ₁₉₆₅ ₁₉₇₀ ₁₉₇₅ ₁₉₈₀ ₁₉₈₅ ₁₉₉₀ ₁₉₉₅ ₂₀₀₀ ₂₀₀₅ ₂₀₁₀ ₂₀₁₅ ₂₀₂₀ ₂₀₂₅ ₂₀₃₀ ₂₀₃₅ ₂₀₄₀ ₂₀₄₅ ₂₀₅₀ ₂₀₅₅ ₂₀₆₀ ₂₀₆₅ ₂₀₇₀ ₂₀₇₅ ₂₀₈₀ ₂₀₈₅ ₂₀₉₀ ₂₀₉₅ ₂₁₀₀ ₂₁₀₅ ₂₁₁₀ ₂₁₁₅ ₂₁₂₀ ₂₁₂₅ ₂₁₃₀ ₂₁₃₅ ₂₁₄₀ ₂₁₄₅ ₂₁₅₀ ₂₁₅₅ ₂₁₆₀ ₂₁₆₅ ₂₁₇₀ ₂₁₇₅ ₂₁₈₀ ₂₁₈₅ ₂₁₉₀ ₂₁₉₅ ₂₂₀₀ ₂₂₀₅ ₂₂₁₀ ₂₂₁₅ ₂₂₂₀ ₂₂₂₅ ₂₂₃₀ ₂₂₃₅ ₂₂₄₀ ₂₂₄₅ ₂₂₅₀ ₂₂₅₅ ₂₂₆₀ ₂₂₆₅ ₂₂₇₀ ₂₂₇₅ ₂₂₈₀ ₂₂₈₅ ₂₂₉₀ ₂₂₉₅ ₂₃₀₀ ₂₃₀₅ ₂₃₁₀ ₂₃₁₅ ₂₃₂₀ ₂₃₂₅ ₂₃₃₀ ₂₃₃₅ ₂₃₄₀ ₂₃₄₅ ₂₃₅₀ ₂₃₅₅ ₂₃₆₀ ₂₃₆₅ ₂₃₇₀ ₂₃₇₅ ₂₃₈₀ ₂₃₈₅ ₂₃₉₀ ₂₃₉₅ ₂₄₀₀ ₂₄₀₅ ₂₄₁₀ ₂₄₁₅ ₂₄₂₀ ₂₄₂₅ ₂₄₃₀ ₂₄₃₅ ₂₄₄₀ ₂₄₄₅ ₂₄₅₀ ₂₄₅₅ ₂₄₆₀ ₂₄₆₅ ₂₄₇₀ ₂₄₇₅ ₂₄₈₀ ₂₄₈₅ ₂₄₉₀ ₂₄₉₅ ₂₅₀₀ ₂₅₀₅ ₂₅₁₀ ₂₅₁₅ ₂₅₂₀ ₂₅₂₅ ₂₅₃₀ ₂₅₃₅ ₂₅₄₀ ₂₅₄₅ ₂₅₅₀ ₂₅₅₅ ₂₅₆₀ ₂₅₆₅ ₂₅₇₀ ₂₅₇₅ ₂₅₈₀ ₂₅₈₅ ₂₅₉₀ ₂₅₉₅ ₂₆₀₀ ₂₆₀₅ ₂₆₁₀ ₂₆₁₅ ₂₆₂₀ ₂₆₂₅ ₂₆₃₀ ₂₆₃₅ ₂₆₄₀ ₂₆₄₅ ₂₆₅₀ ₂₆₅₅ ₂₆₆₀ ₂₆₆₅ ₂₆₇₀ ₂₆₇₅ ₂₆₈₀ ₂₆₈₅ ₂₆₉₀ ₂₆₉₅ ₂₇₀₀ ₂₇₀₅ ₂₇₁₀ ₂₇₁₅ ₂₇₂₀ ₂₇₂₅ ₂₇₃₀ ₂₇₃₅ ₂₇₄₀ ₂₇₄₅ ₂₇₅₀ ₂₇₅₅ ₂₇₆₀ ₂₇₆₅ ₂₇₇₀ ₂₇₇₅ ₂₇₈₀ ₂₇₈₅ ₂₇₉₀ ₂₇₉₅ ₂₈₀₀ ₂₈₀₅ ₂₈₁₀ ₂₈₁₅ ₂₈₂₀ ₂₈₂₅ ₂₈₃₀ ₂₈₃₅ ₂₈₄₀ ₂₈₄₅ ₂₈₅₀ ₂₈₅₅ ₂₈₆₀ ₂₈₆₅ ₂₈₇₀ ₂₈₇₅ ₂₈₈₀ ₂₈₈₅ ₂₈₉₀ ₂₈₉₅ ₂₉₀₀ ₂₉₀₅ ₂₉₁₀ ₂₉₁₅ ₂₉₂₀ ₂₉₂₅ ₂₉₃₀ ₂₉₃₅ ₂₉₄₀ ₂₉₄₅ ₂₉₅₀ ₂₉₅₅ ₂₉₆₀ ₂₉₆₅ ₂₉₇₀ ₂₉₇₅ ₂₉₈₀ ₂₉₈₅ ₂₉₉₀ ₂₉₉₅ ₃₀₀₀ ₃₀₀₅ ₃₀₁₀ ₃₀₁₅ ₃₀₂₀ ₃₀₂₅ ₃₀₃₀ ₃₀₃₅ ₃₀₄₀ ₃₀₄₅ ₃₀₅₀ ₃₀₅₅ ₃₀₆₀ ₃₀₆₅ ₃₀₇₀ ₃₀₇₅ ₃₀₈₀ ₃₀₈₅ ₃₀₉₀ ₃₀₉₅ ₃₁₀₀ ₃₁₀₅ ₃₁₁₀ ₃₁₁₅ ₃₁₂₀ ₃₁₂₅ ₃₁₃₀ ₃₁₃₅ ₃₁₄₀ ₃₁₄₅ ₃₁₅₀ ₃₁₅₅ ₃₁₆₀ ₃₁₆₅ ₃₁₇₀ ₃₁₇₅ ₃₁₈₀ ₃₁₈₅ ₃₁₉₀ ₃₁₉₅ ₃₂₀₀ ₃₂₀₅ ₃₂₁₀ ₃₂₁₅ ₃₂₂₀ ₃₂₂₅ ₃₂₃₀ ₃₂₃₅ ₃₂₄₀ ₃₂₄₅ ₃₂₅₀ ₃₂₅₅ ₃₂₆₀ ₃₂₆₅ ₃₂₇₀ ₃₂₇₅ ₃₂₈₀ ₃₂₈₅ ₃₂₉₀ ₃₂₉₅ ₃₃₀₀ ₃₃₀₅ ₃₃₁₀ ₃₃₁₅ ₃₃₂₀ ₃₃₂₅ ₃₃₃₀ ₃₃₃₅ ₃₃₄₀ ₃₃₄₅ ₃₃₅₀ ₃₃₅₅ ₃₃₆₀ ₃₃₆₅ ₃₃₇₀ ₃₃₇₅ ₃₃₈₀ ₃₃₈₅ ₃₃₉₀ ₃₃₉₅ ₃₄₀₀ ₃₄₀₅ ₃₄₁₀ ₃₄₁₅ ₃₄₂₀ ₃₄₂₅ ₃₄₃₀ ₃₄₃₅ ₃₄₄₀ ₃₄₄₅ ₃₄₅₀ ₃₄₅₅ ₃₄₆₀ ₃₄₆₅ ₃₄₇₀ ₃₄₇₅ ₃₄₈₀ ₃₄₈₅ ₃₄₉₀ ₃₄₉₅ ₃₅₀₀ ₃₅₀₅ ₃₅₁₀ ₃₅₁₅ ₃₅₂₀ ₃₅₂₅ ₃₅₃₀ ₃₅₃₅ ₃₅₄₀ ₃₅₄₅ ₃₅₅₀ ₃₅₅₅ ₃₅₆₀ ₃₅₆₅ ₃₅₇₀ ₃₅₇₅ ₃₅₈₀ ₃₅₈₅ ₃₅₉₀ ₃₅₉₅ ₃₆₀₀ ₃₆₀₅ ₃₆₁₀ ₃₆₁₅ ₃₆₂₀ ₃₆₂₅ ₃₆₃₀ ₃₆₃₅ ₃₆₄₀ ₃₆₄₅ ₃₆₅₀ ₃₆₅₅ ₃₆₆₀ ₃₆₆₅ ₃₆₇₀ ₃₆₇₅ ₃₆₈₀ ₃₆₈₅ ₃₆₉₀ ₃₆₉₅ ₃₇₀₀ ₃₇₀₅ ₃₇₁₀ ₃₇₁₅ ₃₇₂₀ ₃₇₂₅ ₃₇₃₀ ₃₇₃₅ ₃₇₄₀ ₃₇₄₅ ₃₇₅₀ ₃₇₅₅ ₃₇₆₀ ₃₇₆₅ ₃₇₇₀ ₃₇₇₅ ₃₇₈₀ ₃₇₈₅ ₃₇₉₀ ₃₇₉₅ ₃₈₀₀ ₃₈₀₅ ₃₈₁₀ ₃₈₁₅ ₃₈₂₀ ₃₈₂₅ ₃₈₃₀ ₃₈₃₅ ₃₈₄₀ ₃₈₄₅ ₃₈₅₀ ₃₈₅₅ ₃₈₆₀ ₃₈₆₅ ₃₈₇₀ ₃₈₇₅ ₃₈₈₀ ₃₈₈₅ ₃₈₉₀ ₃₈₉₅ ₃₉₀₀ ₃₉₀₅ ₃₉₁₀ ₃₉₁₅ ₃₉₂₀ ₃₉₂₅ ₃₉₃₀ ₃₉₃₅ ₃₉₄₀ ₃₉₄₅ ₃₉₅₀ ₃₉₅₅ ₃₉₆₀ ₃₉₆₅ ₃₉₇₀ ₃₉₇₅ ₃₉₈₀ ₃₉₈₅ ₃₉₉₀ ₃₉₉₅ ₄₀₀₀ ₄₀₀₅ ₄₀₁₀ ₄₀₁₅ ₄₀₂₀ ₄₀₂₅ ₄₀₃₀ ₄₀₃₅ ₄₀₄₀ ₄₀₄₅ ₄₀₅₀ ₄₀₅₅ ₄₀₆₀ ₄₀₆₅ ₄₀₇₀ ₄₀₇₅ ₄₀₈₀ ₄₀₈₅ ₄₀₉₀ ₄₀₉₅ ₄₁₀₀ ₄₁₀₅ ₄₁₁₀ ₄₁₁₅ ₄₁₂₀ ₄₁₂₅ ₄₁₃₀ ₄₁₃₅ ₄₁₄₀ ₄₁₄₅ ₄₁₅₀ ₄₁₅₅ ₄₁₆₀ ₄₁₆₅ ₄₁₇₀ ₄₁₇₅ ₄₁₈₀ ₄₁₈₅ ₄₁₉₀ ₄₁₉₅ ₄₂₀₀ ₄₂₀₅ 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Examples

The invention will be further illustrated with reference to the following examples, which are submitted for a better understanding of the invention and are not to be construed as being limiting in any manner whatsoever.

5 Polyester polymer chips with a melting temperature T_m of about 253°C were spun through a spinneret plate. Situated immediately beneath the spinneret plate was a heated tube. After passing through this heated tube the formed filaments were cooled with air in a cooling zone comprised of a perforated tube. After being passed through the cooling zone, the filaments were finished with the aid of a finish wheel.

10 Next, the filament speed was fixed by means of 10 lays around two godets of equal diameter and equal rotational speed (pair 1). The resulting undrawn filaments were immediately passed on to a second pair of godets (pair 2). Using a Barmag type CW8 yarn winder the resulting drawn yarn was then wound through 10 wraps around a third pair of godets (pair 3).

15 The most important process conditions of different spinning trials are given in Table I. In Table II the properties of the resulting polyester filament yarns are presented.

20 The yarns were used to make cords in a manner described in this application. The properties of these cords are presented in Table III.

25 Example 4 is a comparative example. The crystallinity of the as-spun yarn is larger than 16%. This relatively high crystallinity of the as-spun yarn prevented the material from being drawn to a draw ratio that would have resulted in a product with a combination of advantageous use properties.

Table I
Process conditions

Example	1	2	3	4	5	6
Polymer relative viscosity	2,26	2,31	2,23	2,29	2,29	
Polymer line temperature (°C)	305	314	307	311	306	
Spinneret plate						
- # orifices	280	212	280	280	280	212
- orifice diameter (μm)	500	500	400	400	400	500
Heated tube						
- temperature (°C)	300	300	300	300	300	300
- length (cm)	28	28	20	20	20	24
Cooling air						
- temperature (°C)	40	40	20	20	20	60
- relative humidity	65	65	65	65	65	65
Cooling zone						
- length (cm)	75	75	90	90	90	
- type	A	B	C	C	C	
As-spun yarn crystallinity (%)	7,3	9	7	18	<1	12,5
Drawing zone						
Godets pair 1						
- temperature (°C)	56	51	80	80	80	
- peripheral velocity (m/min)	3344	3525	3525	4525	2625	4000
Godets pair 2						
- temperature (°C)	235	235	235	235	235	235
- peripheral velocity (m/min)	6700	7035	7035	7425	6240	7300
Godets pair 3						
- temperature (°C)	160	160	160	160	160	160
- peripheral velocity (m/min)	6690	7030	7025	7415	6230	7290
Winding speed (m/min)	6482	6825	6798	7200	6034	7098

25 Cooling zone type:
A resistance to flow of the wall of the tube being higher at the centre of the tube than at its ends,
B 15 cm of the top covered up,
C 15 cm of the top not perforated

Sub C19

Table II
Properties of the resulting polyester filament yarns

Example	1	2	3	4	5	6
Yarn type	A	B	A	A	A	B
Linear density (dtex)	1114	1120	1109	1134	1102	1115
Breaking tenacity (mN/tex)	704	694	689	619	701	662
Elongation at break (%)	13,2	13,3	14	17,4	13,7	14,2
Breaking toughness (J/g)	59	60	62	78	59	65
Shrinkage 177°C	5,4	5,7	4,8	3,7	5,9	5,8

Yarn type: A = 1100f280, B = 1100f212

Sub C20

Table III
Properties of the resulting cords

Example	1	2	3	4	5	6
Linear density (dtex)	3660	3693	3654	3715	3593	3643
Breaking tenacity (mN/tex)	597	597	592	514	588	574
Elongation at break (%)	19,1	19,4	19,2	23,6	17,4	20,8
Breaking toughness (J/g)	68	69	66	82	54	75
Shrinkage (HAS)	1,55	1,61	1,50	1,34	1,91	1,57
DSF	119	115	123	139	98	118
Q _f	138	144	124	190	<0	175